

Appl. No. 09/683,648
Amdt. dated November 18, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 27, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tateishi et al., U.S. Patent 5,025,434 (hereafter Tateishi):

5 Response:

The applicant would like to point out how the independent claims 1, 7, and 12 are patentably distinguished from Tateishi. Each of independent claims 1 and 7 contains the limitation "the corrected tracking error signal being modified from a
10 reference point onward, to mirror the subsequent half cycle of the tracking error signal". The independent method claim 12 contains the limitation "the corrected tracking error signal comprising a first half cycle that is substantially the same as a first half cycle the tracking error signal and a subsequent second half cycle that is substantially a mirrored image of a second half cycle of the tracking error signal". As
15 shown in Fig.4 of the present invention, the reference point is denoted by reference numeral 66. At the reference point 66, the slope of the corrected tracking error signal TE_input is equal to zero. The shape of the wave directly to the right of the reference point 66 is a mirror image of the original tracking error signal TE that is shown in a dotted line below.

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On the other hand, Tateishi teaches in Fig.3 that the compensated TE signal has a saw-tooth shape (col.5, lines 33-36). Therefore, the off-track portion of the corrected TE signal shown in Fig.3D is not a mirror image of the original TE signal shown in Fig.3A.

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In Fig.9D, Tateishi's compensated TE signal shown in Fig.9D does not have a point analogous to the reference point 66 shown in Fig.4 of the present invention where the slope is equal to zero on the compensated TE signal. That is, on the transition from the off-track

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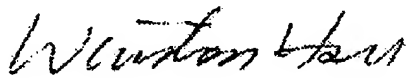
period to the on-track period, the slope is not equal to zero, which it should be since the slope is equal to zero at this point on the original TE signal shown in Fig.9B.

Thus, since Tateishi does not teach that the compensated TE signal is a mirror image of
5 the original TE signal during the off-track period, Tateishi does not anticipate all of the limitations in the independent claims 1, 7, and 12. Claims 2-6 and 8-11 are dependent on claims 1 and 7, and should be allowed if claims 1 and 7 are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-12 is therefore respectfully requested.

10 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

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Date: November 18, 2005

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